

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A) (12)

TO: Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: July 1, 2014

FROM: R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution directing the County Mayor to provide licensed social workers and licensed mental health professionals employed by the County with grief counseling training and to create a Grief Counseling Community Program to help communities impacted by murder

A substitute was presented and forwarded to the BCC with a favorable recommendation at the 6-9-14 Health and Social Services Committee. This substitute differs from the original in that it renames the proposed program as the Grief Counseling Community Program.

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Dennis C. Moss and Co-Sponsor Vice Chair Lynda Bell.



R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/smm



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

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Please note any items checked.

- ☐ "3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised
- ☐ 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- ☐ 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- ☐ Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- ☐ Budget required
- ☐ Statement of fiscal impact required
- ☐ Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing
- ☐ No committee review
- ☐ Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous ____) to approve
- ☐ Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved _____ Mayor

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(12)

Veto _____

7-1-14

Override _____

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO PROVIDE LICENSED SOCIAL WORKERS AND LICENSED MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS EMPLOYED BY THE COUNTY WITH GRIEF COUNSELING TRAINING AND TO CREATE A GRIEF COUNSELING COMMUNITY PROGRAM TO HELP COMMUNITIES IMPACTED BY MURDER, IN COORDINATION WITH THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COMMUNITY RELATIONS BOARD

WHEREAS, a murder committed at a particular location may significantly impact and traumatize members of that ~~[[community]]~~¹ >>community, particularly children<<; and

WHEREAS, in high-crime locations, individuals may benefit from counseling to cope with the trauma of a murder of a >>neighbor,<< ~~[[neighbor or]]~~ fellow community member >>or a child<<; and

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade County Community Relations Board is an advisory board whose duties include working "proactively to identify and relieve intergroup conflicts before cris[e]s arise" and "to assure that resources are in place to respond to community crisis[.]" and

WHEREAS, ~~[[Miami Dade County Public Schools has developed a crisis management team of counseling professionals who provide consultation, materials and presentations for school staff and parents on topics such as bullying/harassment, youth suicide and bereavement]]~~
>>school systems throughout the country have programs that provide grief counseling whenever a tragedy impacts their schools<<; and

¹ The differences between the substitute and the original item are indicated as follows: Words stricken through and/or [[double bracketed]] shall be deleted, words underscored and/or >>double arrowed<< are added.

WHEREAS, employees across different County departments may be licensed social workers and licensed mental health professionals; and

>>WHEREAS, these licensed professionals may be willing to participate in a grief counseling program subject to collective bargaining agreements with labor unions that may apply,<<

~~[[WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County is party to collective bargaining agreements with labor unions; and~~

~~WHEREAS, some County employees who are licensed social workers and licensed mental health professionals may be union members,]]~~

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board directs the County Mayor or Mayor's designee to compile a list of licensed social workers and licensed mental health professionals employed by the County, to provide >>participating<< licensed social workers and licensed mental health professionals already employed by the County with training in >>community<< grief counseling, and in accordance with the provisions of any applicable labor union agreements, to develop a Grief ~~[[Assistance Coalition]]~~ >>Counseling Community Program similar to the Goodwill Ambassadors Program,<< comprised of the County's licensed social workers and licensed mental health professionals to help communities where murders have taken place, in coordination with the Miami-Dade County Community Relations Board.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Dennis C. Moss and the Co-Sponsor is Vice Chair Lynda Bell. It was offered by Commissioner who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Rebeca Sosa, Chairwoman
Lynda Bell, Vice Chair

Bruno A. Barreiro
Jose "Pepe" Diaz
Sally A. Heyman
Jean Monestime
Sen. Javier D. Souto
Juan C. Zapata

Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.
Audrey M. Edmonson
Barbara J. Jordan
Dennis C. Moss
Xavier L. Suarez

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 1st day of July, 2014. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.



Estephanie S. Resnik